



Mainsheet

The Corinthian Yacht Club of Tacoma Newsletter

Volume 17, Issue 5

May 2017



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Commodore

The official opening day of yachting season may be May 6, but from my vantage point on May 1st, it's already in full swing. In spite of some fairly deplorable weather, last Saturday on the dock showed a plethora of club members cleaning, polishing putting things on the boat and taking things off of the boat - all in preparation for "the season."



For me the season really began a little more than a week ago when eight of our CYCT boats journeyed to the Tacoma Yacht Club to join Stephanie Arnold who keeps her boat there. The event - Daffodil Festival. A great time was had by all - in spite of the rain - and in spite of the dirty, gravelly mess that is currently the club. The naughty boat looked amazing with 2000 daffodils and we had great fun in the trivia contest in spite of the commodore not recognizing a place he's been a gazillion times - FRIDAY HARBOR!

And now - time for opening day at the Seattle Yacht club. This is a great event with or without your boat. Come Saturday morning and watch the Windermere cup and then the boat parade. Afterward join your friends from CYCT on dock zero, look at the boats, and have an adult beverage. Watch Facebook - someone will post something.

Another sign that the season is really here, Windseekers! We're three weeks in and it's been interesting. I was deep in the bowels of the naughty boat for race one - but I got wet anyway. Race two I double handed with trusty Michael. Another wet one. And last Wednesday - well read my article on the back page. Don and crew do a great time with the races! Something I'd like to see is more racers joining the club. CYCT puts on some 35 races a year. Imagine our region without CYCT racing. Pretty bleak! Encourage your racing friends to join in support of the folks who bring them so much enjoyment. Remember there are crew memberships also.

My favorite sign that the season is here? Cruises! Memorial Day is just around the bend. After that is the Tall Ship Cruise, and on and on and on. If you haven't been to a cruise, try it. Why not? Most of the cruises are open to land yachts as well.

(Continued on page 11)

2017 CYCT Officers & Board Members

FLAG OFFICERS

Commodore: Ken St. John

Vice Commodore: Don Kimball

Rear Commodore:

Janice VanRavenswaay

BOARD POSITIONS

Recording Secretary: Deb McAdams

Treasurer: Bill Jenks

Membership Chairs:

Tom and Jennifer Tenney

Fleet Captains-Cruising:

Rich and Angie Morales

Fleet Captain-Racing: Don Kimball

Past Commodore: Eric Nelson

STANDING COMMITTEES

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Mainsheet Editor: John Coyne

Sunshine: Julie St. John

Web Site: Greg Sandwick

Floating Asset Chair: Joe Salz

Publicity: Cindy Craig

Trophies: Steve Wagner

Education: Penny Shen

Social: Jennifer Ihlen

Long Range Planning: Jeremy Bush

Seeking Volunteers

Historian

REPRESENTATIVES

PHRF Handicapper: Ron Holbrook

PHRF Director: Eric Nelson

PIYA Representative: Eric Nelson

MAINSHEET

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Tacoma

5624 Marine View Drive
Tacoma, WA 98422

Email the editor:
mainsheet@cyct.com



Vice Commodore

It's May and time for opening day. Time is short to get ready. So today will be the day to do the engine maintenance and try to get the green off the boat by pressure washer. Wish me luck.



Of course we have done our rehearsals via the Daffodil Festival Marine Parade last weekend. Quite the contrast to last years affair it was rainy and a bit nippy. Your stalwart Flag officers did well; standing at attention and saluting as we passed in review, with a rolling deck from the wake of a nearby boat. We stayed on the boat. We represented on the well dress Naughty by Nature. My personal apologies to Ken and Julie for spilling red wine on there deck, they graciously said this was not the first time. And a special thanks to my Honey Debbie for proving that you can get red wine stains out of whites. Note to self.. White wine or beer only in Seattle. Yachting season is upon us. Be safe and have a great season. Don Kimball, Vice Commodore, S/V Cool Kat

Don Kimball
CYCT Vice Commodore
S/V Cool Kat.

Gardylloo Consulting LLC

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Rear Commodore

It's here! It is officially boating season! Brock and I have been working hard preparing Tatoosh for her many adventures. Just today Brock did an oil change with the gallons of diesel oil I won in a drawing at the Daffodil Festival!



Reason 612 to be a part of a club...boating is more fun with friends. This past weekend a group of us ventured to the basin of TYC for their daffodil festivities. It was so nice to see some of our newer members like Jeremy Bush in his new boat Aslyum, Stephanie Arnold from Second Wind and a new crew member John Stafford came down to help decorate. Mainsheet Editor John Coyne came down to party with the group Saturday night. Other land yachters also made appearances...Mark and Eli Stopka, Gary and Joy Ballentine, Don and Debbie McAdams, Ron and Connie Holbrook, Dana Gage and Sue Pinkham. If you haven't been to Daffodil (which we only started going three years ago) it's worth experiencing it at least once.

Windseekers has been off to a "spirited" start. We saw Gardylloo's orange sail last week and knew our crew would have been much happier at Rock the Dock, which they were! A huge shout out goes to the crew of Something Special. Unfortunately, the winds proved much stronger for one fellow boat and Glenn and his crew were able to get them off the boom log and safely back to the docks. Hopefully May will bring more calmer, predictable and DRIER weather!!

Janice VanRavenswaay

Rear Commodore

S/V Tatoosh



Racing

Man!! How the time flies.
It's May already.

Windseekers is in full action. Spring #3 proved to be the most exciting yet. With winds up to 30 knots, spray flying at the start. I've seen some great photos, courtesy of Mrs. St. John. And some cool videos from a couple sources. One incident occurred. One of our racers ended up against the barge lot log boom. As the crews effort to get clear failed with pounding waves and a relentless SW wind, things weren't looking good. Romeo Charlie receive a call from the Coast Guard advising us of the situation. RC prepared to get underway to assist. This proved to be unneeded as one of our racers went in to action. Something Special dropped sails and proceeded into the log boom to get the distressed vessel clear of the boom. Once clear Glenn Cowling, Steve Brown and the crew of Something Special insured the safe delivery to Tyee. Next time you see the guys and gals on Something Special, give them a kudos for stepping up.



As for your race committee, yeah we know how skewed our line was. Heck we were happy to finally get the anchor to stick. Thanks to those racers helping to get the results correct.

NEW subject. Race committee will need assistance for Spring # 5. Yours truly will be absent to the Oregon Offshore on Desperado. Volunteers needed.

OKAY! LETS GO RACING! Don Kimball, S/V Cool Kat, CYCT RC

Don Kimball
CYCT RC
S/V Cool, Kat

Also, From Scuttlebutt Sailing News:

Ten Reasons to Race Mid-Week:
You may scorn the 'beer can racing' label, but it does induce thoughts of casual competition and comradery. And

since more people tend to embrace mid-week racing than weekend events, something must be working.

However, if you are not a believer, the good folks at SpinSheet magazine have compiled 10 reasons to race at Annapolis Yacht Club's Wednesday Night Race Series.

1. It's an excuse to leave work early.
2. Sailing is great for balance, so you can probably get a doctor's note to call it physical therapy.
3. You've been cooped up in your own stale air since November, which has made you pasty and cranky.
4. You're driving your spouse crazy talking about sailing while doing nothing but obsess about winning Musto gear and staring at sailing videos on your phone.
5. You're really not very likeable in the off-season.
6. You have no other hobbies, so Wednesday night in season is the only time you're happy and have something to talk about.
7. There's no beer in the house, but there's some in the cooler on the boat.
8. You haven't seen your sailing friends since you drank all those Painkillers last Columbus Day weekend at the Sailboat Show and need to catch up on gossip.
9. Why would you NOT go racing tonight?
10. It's ANNAPOLIS. It's Wednesday. This is what we do. SEE YOU ON THE WATER!

(Editor's note: Replace "Annapolis" with "TACOMA" :-))

HOME BOAT REPAIR RULE #1:





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Interchangeable parts—won't.**

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Corinthian Yacht Club of Tacoma 2017 Race Calendar

Saturday	January 21	Harbor Series #1
Saturday	February 4	Harbor Series #2
Saturday	March 4	Harbor Series #3
Wednesday	April 12	Windseekers - Early Spring Series
Saturday	April 15	Spring Single-hand
Wednesday	April 19	Windseekers - Early Spring Series
Wednesday	April 26	Windseekers - Early Spring Series
Wednesday	May 3	Windseekers - Early Spring Series
Wednesday	May 10	Windseekers - Early Spring Series
Wednesday	May 17	Windseekers - Spring Series
Wednesday	May 24	Windseekers - Spring Series
Wednesday	May 31	Windseekers - Spring Series
Wednesday	June 7	Windseekers - Spring Series
Wednesday	June 14	Windseekers - Spring Series
Saturday	June 17	Three Hour Tour #1
Wednesday	June 21	Windseekers - Summer Series
Wednesday	June 28	Windseekers - Summer Series
Wednesday	July 5	Windseekers - Summer Series
Saturday	July 8	Three Hour Tour #2
Wednesday	July 12	Windseekers - Summer Series
Wednesday	July 19	Windseekers - Summer Series
Wednesday	July 16	Windseekers - Summer Series
Wednesday	July 26	Windseekers - Summer Series
Saturday	July 29	Three Hour Tour #3
Wednesday	August 2	Windseekers - Late Summer Series
Wednesday	August 9	Windseekers - Late Summer Series
Wednesday	August 26	Windseekers - Late Summer Series
Saturday	August 19	Vashon Challenge
Wednesday	August 23	Windseekers - Late Summer Series
Saturday	September 2	Windseeker's Awards Race
Saturday	September 16	Point Series #1
Saturday	September 30	Point Series #2
Saturday	October 7	Sailor's Memorial Single-hand
Saturday	October 21	Point Series #3
Saturday	November 4	Point Series #4



Cruising

The weekend of April 22-23 Daffodil Maritime Festival was held at Tacoma Yacht Club. Even though the weather was less than perfect, it didn't dampen the spirits of those in attendance.



CYCT was well represented with 8 boats! Wow! CYCT land yachts were welcomed as well. Friday night dinner was Hawaiian Luau and the First Ever Commodore Hula Contest. Our Rear Commodore Janice VanRavenswaay, standing in for Commodore Ken St. John, and her cute as ever little Julia, stole the show with their hula dance.

Saturday morning brought rain and cold for decorating our flagship boat Naughty By Nature. Quite a lot of helpers braved the rain to decorate her. I'm sure Commodore Ken St. John was very proud of the end result.

Saturday afternoon, CYCT Trivia Team participants were Ken St. John, Aubre Nelson, Jennifer Tenney, Sue Pinkham, Deb McAdams, Angie Morales, and Brock VanRavensway. Fun was had by all. Thanks to Jennifer Tenney for the costumes, Judges Bribes, and the VanRavensways

for the adult beverages for those bribes.

Parade Day Sunday began with the Flag Ceremony. All Commodores from the attending yacht clubs lined up to observe the raising of our Flag. Shortly thereafter the boats prepared to depart the Basin for the parade. As Naughty By Nature approached the Review Stand, skippered by Julie St. John, the Current Commodore Ken St. John, Past Commodores Eric Nelson and Gary Ballentine, Vice Commodore Don Kimball and Rear Commodore Janice VanRavenswaay gave a hearty salute. There were people along the waterfront shoreline waving at all the decorated boats as we motored to the Foss Waterway and back to TYC.

Julie St. John had prepared a nice lunch of sandwiches, chips and dip, vegetable tray, cold drinks and cookies for her guests to enjoy. And we did! Thank you Julie.

The Awards Ceremony was held after the parade and although we didn't win this year, there is always next year. With the end of the day near, we all boarded our boats for the wet motor back to our respective marinas.

Fair Winds,

Angie & Rich Morales

Fleet Captains Cruising

S/V La Gitana

CYCT 2017 Cruising Schedule

Date	Cruise	Host	Location
May 6-7	SYC Opening Day	Club Sponsored Event	Seattle Yacht Club
May 26 - 29	Memorial Day Cruise	Tom and Jenn Tenney	Dockton
June 17-18	Tall Ships Cruise	Ken & Julie St. John	Tyee
June 24-25	5th Annual Bad Captain's Cruise	Ken & Julie St. John (Father's Day)	TBD
July 1-4	Independence Day Cruise	Bill Jenks and Cindy Craig	TBD
August 19-20	3rd Annual Zombie Cruise	McAdams	Des Moines Marina
September 2-4	Labor Day	Fred and Ursula Ahrens	TBD
October 28-29	Windseekers Cruise	Eric and Aubre Nelson	Eastern WA

Tall Ships Cruise to Tyee June 17 and 18 Tyee Marina

Spend your weekend enjoying the Tacoma Tall Ship Festival and your nights enjoying your CYCT friends at Tyee Marina

<https://www.tallshipsevents.com/event/festival-sail-tacoma-2017/>

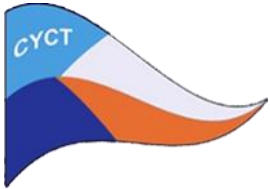
This will be a low event cruise. Members are encouraged to take in the Festival and compete in Saturday's race as well. Early arrivals on Friday night can take part in what we call "hanging out on boats"

Saturday evening we'll have a pot luck and Bon Fire

Sunday morning we'll provide breakfast

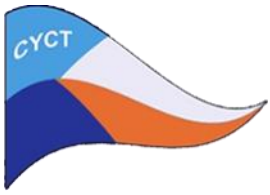
No Tyee residents need proof of insurance and \$20 per night.

Watch Facebook for more details.



Daffodil Festival 2017 in Pictures





Meeting Minutes

CYCT General Meeting Minutes 2017

Month: April

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Our Commodore, Ken St John.

Guests- Penny Shen has Phil who races on Dulcinea, and has a Tartan 30 at Foss Marina. Andy Schwenk, our speaker tonight along with Tim Cleary are here as is Judy with Terry and Pierre Michel, she has a dock in Anacortes.

Motion was made by Don Kimball and seconded by Don McAdams to approve the March General Meeting minutes as published in the Mainsheet.

Shining Light Award: Nominees- Eric Nelson is nominating Jeremy Bush for advocating for sailing, getting sailing meet up group launched and getting young people out on boats. Stephanie Arnold seconded.

Reports

___ Vice Commodore: Don Kimball- Guest speaker Andy Schwenk is here from Anacortes to talk about upgrading your boat.

___ Rear Commodore: Janice Vanravenswaay- Cleaning out the clubhouse. Found lots of license plate frames, silverware and dishes and more. Help yourself to the bounty at the table and the rest goes to goodwill

___ Past Commodore: Eric Nelson- no report

___ Treasurer: Bill Jenks- memberships checks are coming in. We are still on the plus side of the balance sheet.

___ Secretary: Debbie McAdams- no report

___ Membership Chair: Jennifer and Tom Tenney—No new members just yet, but will have an upgraded membership tonight. Brochures available to hand out put them wherever you can.

___ Fleet Captain Cruising: Angie and Rich Morales: not present, no report

___ Fleet Captain Racing: Don Kimball- Windseekers starts again on April 12. Three starts, PHRF, Challenger class and non-PHRF. In Challenger class you don't have to have a PHRF rating but may still fly a spinnaker. Single/double handed Around Vashon race is this Saturday.

___ Education: Penny Shen – Marvin Fritts will be here in May and will present using your lifesling and an on the water practice will be scheduled. Laura Crews' First Aid class on April 9 was very informative.

___ Social: Jennifer Ihlen- Eli Andrews-Stopka is here to help the social committee with the picnic and Christmas party and they are looking into options for bringing back the crab feed. The Christmas party will be December 9 at the Brown's Point Improvement Club.

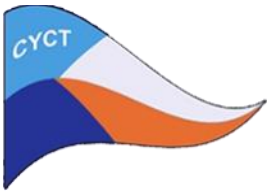
___ Club Merchandise: Jen Tenney- check the website for things to purchase in the future.

___ Mainsheet: John Coyne- not present, no report

___ Sunshine: Julie St. John- A card was given to Gene Brown for the loss of Luke, his standard poodle. Rich Morales is in the ICU at Valley Medical Center. He has pericarditis (an inflammation around the heart) and pain that was not well controlled as yet. And Arabesque sold. (Sec note: Rich is out and about and feeling great.)

___ Webmaster: Greg Sandwick- web hosting has been paid thru July 2021. Membership roster is now available on line. As you pay you will receive a password to log in to see it. And more members content to be added. One log in per membership.

___ Historian- Matt Thomas- At TYC they have a spot to display trophies and other awards. Here we do not, but he and Greg Sandwick are working on a virtual trophy room. He is also looking to interview longstanding members and do an oral history.



Meeting Minutes

___ Long Range Planning: Jeremy Bush—The Meet Up group launched. 73 people are now in the group. Sign up if you have a boat and are willing to host crew on your boat or are crew and are looking for a boat to sail on. We need more boats that need crew. Once the interested crew signs up Jeremy will send boat owners their contact info, then it's up to you to contact them. He will try to match the right crew with the right boat. Mountaineers classes and TWSA classes are underway and need to find boats to sail on, too. Once you are matched with compatible boat/crew, you can contact each other directly.

___ Floating Assets: Joe Salz— A bill for all of the expenses so far this year, \$155. Work party done with Joe Salz, Don Kimball, Rich and Angie Morales and Cindy Larrison. Don Kimball was awarded a long tailed tee shirt with "The Crack of Don."

___ Publicity: Cindy Craig- not present, no report

___ Women's Sailing: Planning meeting was held last Friday. No photos

___ Trophies: Steve Wagner- He can use Grog Mugs found in clubhouse to turn into trophies.

___ Racing Protests: Eric Nelson— no report

___ PHRF Director: Eric Nelson— no report

___ PHRF Handicapper: Ron Holbrook— no report

___ NW Boating Council: Ron Holbrook— no report

___ Dinghies: Eric Nelson- no report

___ Commodore's Report: Ken St John— dues invoices were already sent out. Dues are going up \$25 this year. Those who pay now will pay last year's amount of \$225 and those who do not pay in the next two months will pay \$250.

Dinghy dock- We will be charging \$10 per month or \$100 per year for use of the dinghy dock. We will be adding kayak holders for your use as well. The dinghy dock has been repaired. There will be room for stand up paddleboards. Facebook- Please remember to play nice on CYCT FB page. It is our face to the world and not a place for politics, arguments etc. Guidelines will be posted on our FB page. Racers- we sponsor 35 races this year. If we dropped out of racing there would not be any racing in this area. Looking into giving discounted crew memberships to the Mountaineers.

___ Old Business--none

___ New Business--none

___ Birthdays announced-

___ BREAK-

___ Raffle- and the winners are:

Chardonnay was won by Terry Michel

IPA beer won by Brock and Janice Vanravenswaay

Muscato was won by Gary Sandwick

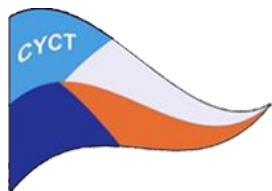
Honey ale was won by Joe Salz

Pinot Grigio was won by Ed Pinkham

Margarita Gold was won by Don Kimball

Scuttlebutt beer was won by George McKay

Skinny Margarita was won by Brock and Janice Vanravenswaay and gave back IPA beer



Meeting Minutes

IPA beer was won by Don McAdams

Irish Cream gift set was won by Steve Wagner

Janice Vanravenswaay gave a how to on using the website Yacht Destinations and how to find the reciprocal moorage- Go to yachtdestinations.org and it will walk you through how to contact the marinas and where to go. There will be a link to it on the CYCT webpage.

____Speaker: Andy Schwenk of Northwest Rigging speaking on upgrading your boat. A spinnaker top down furler can make dousing your chute much easier. Electric winches and windlasses can make sailing easier so you can keep on sailing. Plastic coated lifelines can keep water inside and let lifelines rust and break easily. Stainless steel is recommended. LED lights for mast lights- save trips up the mast to change bulbs. “Most bang for your buck” item- adjustable backstay and properly tuned rig, and, of course sails.

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Eric Nelson and seconded by Greg Sandwick

The meeting was adjourned at 2100.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie McAdams

Recording Secretary

S/V Red Splash



Commodore

(Continued from Page 1)

So if you haven't started prepping your boat, better get to it. My new buddy, the pressure washer, and i have cleaned deck to bilge - yes, bilge! I've re connected the water heater after yanking the water heater to repack the rudder shaft. The little yellow vacuum is ready to be emptied again. I'm ready. What are you waiting for?

Ken St. John

Commodore

S/V Naughty By Nature



Members Abroad

Keep track of our non-resident
members as they live the life we only
dream of!

Bev and Lew Channing

S/V Suzanne



[www.sailblogs.com/
member/channing/](http://www.sailblogs.com/member/channing/)

Chris and Janet Wenderoth

S/V Respite



[http://www.sailblogs.com/
member/respite/](http://www.sailblogs.com/member/respite/)



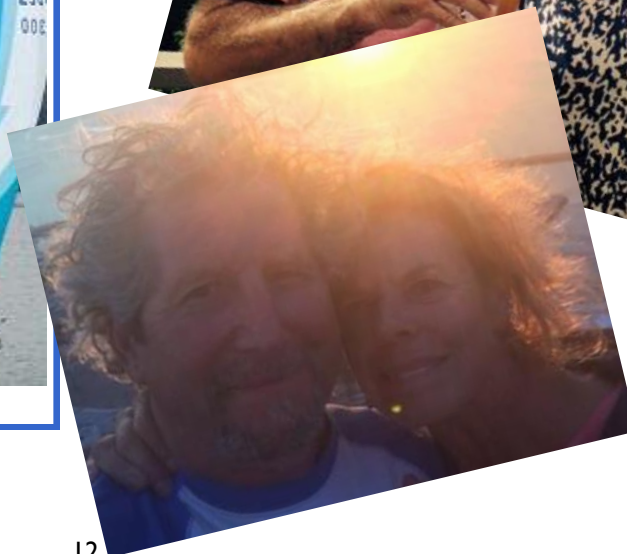
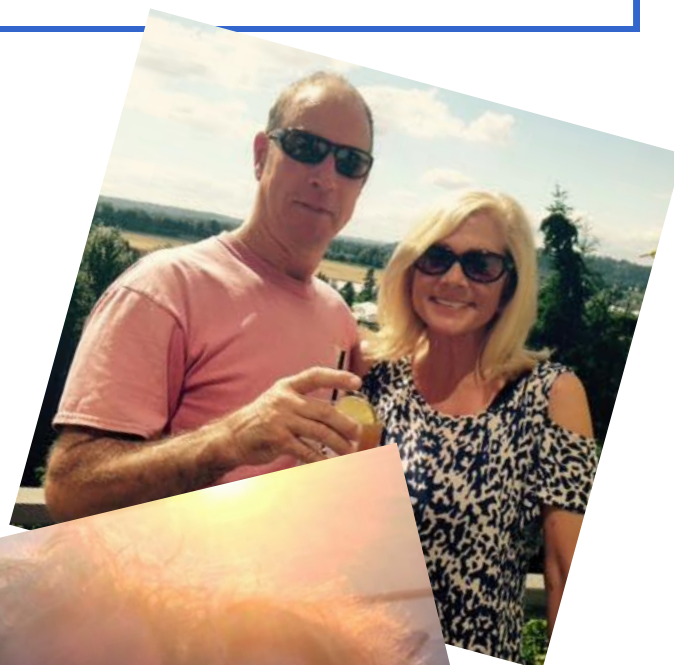
Dennis and Becky Flannigan

S/V Kokomo



After 10 years of dream-
ing we are off. Follow
along as we move
about the globe fixing
our boat in different cul-
tures and exotic places.

[http://
www.kokomosailing.com/](http://www.kokomosailing.com/)



May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 WINDSEEKERS Early Spring Series	4	5	6 Opening Day Cruise SYC
7 Opening Day Cruise SYC	8 7 PM General Meeting (Johnny's)	9	10 WINDSEEKERS Early Spring Series	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 WINDSEEKERS Spring Series	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 WINDSEEKERS Spring Series	25	26	27 Memorial Day Cruise Dockton
28 Memorial Day Cruise Dockton	29 Memorial Day Cruise Dockton	30	31 WINDSEEKERS Spring Series			

June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 WINDSEEKERS Spring Series	8	9	10
11	12 7 PM General Meeting The Clubhouse @ Tyee Marina	13	14 WINDSEEKERS Spring Series	15	16	17 3-Hour Tour Series Race #1 Father's Day Cruise
18 Father's Day Cruise	19	20	21 WINDSEEKERS Summer Series	22	23	24
25	26 7 PM Board Meeting (Johnny's)	27	28 WINDSEEKERS Summer Series	29	30	

Photo by Ken St. John

Check CYCT.com for additional information on meetings and races

Sunshine



A card was sent to Rich Morales this month because he has had a heart condition and is continuing to recover. We all hope you get better quickly Rich. Please contact Julie St John at juliesgarden@gmail.com with any news that you would like to share, good or bad.

Julie St. John
S/V Naughty By Nature
253-632-3273

Happy Birthday to our CYCT Members

Judy Anderson	May 15
Brenda Bethards	May 6
Bruce Blunt	May 27
Gene Brown	May 11
Carolyn Crone	May 20
Neil Delisanti	May 26
Laurel Lemke	May 5
Michael Meyers	May 7
Angie Morales	May 5
Renee Paine	May 21
Jay Pyles	May 3
Monica Hoffer	May 12
Cheryl White	May 19



On The Cover

Now THAT is a Wednesday night in Tacoma

Photo by Julie St. John

Saw it on Facebook



Ken St John shared Tacoma Yacht Club's photo.
April 24 at 11:23am

CYCT Representing!



Tacoma Yacht Club at **Tacoma Yacht Club**.
April 24 at 10:50am · Tacoma

TYC Daffodil Parade Boat #15 (Naughty By Nature) - Corinthian Yacht Club of Tacoma Flagship



Like



Comment



Jennifer Madsen Tenney, Dana Bachelier-Gage and 20 others

Seen by 52



Write a comment...



The 2017 Women's Boating Seminar is coming up! May 20th, 2017 at Olympia Yacht Club.

This year it is a 2 day Event— check it out at www.ssssclub.com/wbs.htm

Some great hands on demonstrations and workshops:
Navigation Essentials, Understanding weather on the water, Docking your boat, Marine 12V Systems and more!

Tickets are available at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2803493
Space is limited... register early!

South Sound Sailing Society
and
Olympia Yacht Club
present





Basic Rules

- You must be a CYCT member or sponsored by a CYCT member to post an item.
- Each month the CYCT posting member must submit their items for sale before the 25th of the month (send your post to jmainsheet@cyct.com).
- **Items must be submitted each month or they will not be reposted.**
- You are responsible to sell your item so you must include your contact information (items without contact information will not be posted).

Post your items for sale here! Contact
mainsheet@cyct.com for posting!

The View From the Rear

(Musings of a Casual Racer)

When the Blowing Gets Tough

Often our non-sailing friends will say, "sailing looks so relaxing". And it can be. But some times it's excruciatingly slow, and other times - well it's back breaking and a bit scary. Last Wednesday was one of the latter types. Winds were steady in the upper teens and lower twenties. We say a peak that evening of 31.9 knots of wind.

Many boats never left the dock. Others did but elected to head for the bar instead of race. A few started the race and abandoned. And a handful of us actually finished.

And it's all ok.

The lovely and gracious Mrs. St. John elected to stay on shore. I elected to go out with longtime crew member Michael and two gals who came to us through the meet up group. Both had same sailing experience but long ago.

If I had to do it again - I might not have gone out. Mid-teens is the Naughty boat's sweet spot but these steady upper teens gave us a battering nears the entire race. We started with the main reefed and sailed pre race under main alone. After a few trial jibes I elected to keep the main close in regardless of point of sail to preserve the rigging and Michael's noggin. We also elected to keep clear of other boats. Luckily the field had already cleared.

As the race began, we let go the jib, also reefed, and flew towards the mark. It was fun, fast, and exhilarating, but trying to teach novices winch handling and jib trim in these conditions - well it wasn't going to happen. We were largely double handling with a lot of attention being kept on keeping all safe.

Midway to that first mark we started hearing a lot of radio chatter which we couldn't decipher. Soon we didn't have to. Turbo, a small, light boat was getting pounded against the buoy and log boom at the barge lot. They were trying to tie up and calling frantically for help. I got on the horn with them and offered to relay their predicament. The Naughty boat came with a high quality VHF and I know I can be heard. Problem was I wasn't

And I was torn. The law of the sea is to render assistance. It's also part of our CYCT swearing in. Problem is, I didn't see how to do it without putting my boat and my crew in danger. With a known and trusted crew it would have been different but as it was, it was practically me alone dousing sails, preparing a long line, and swooping in close to danger to toss it a tiny target, then getting away to haul them off. Yes, I had Mike, but the noise of the wind was making communication tough - I think we're both deaf. And I just couldn't risk our new comers.

There were several other boats hanging by without sails up and finally the guys on Something Special effected the rescue. All



onboard agreed I'd make the right decision but I still struggle with it.

But - we were racing still. The first mark was a disaster. I had driven home to me a lesson I'd been taught before - "check the rigging when anything has changed!" We normally keep the jib rigged to go. For Daffodil Festival we'd un-rigged and tied to the bow pulpit. It had been re-rigged but not by me. We tried to tack at the mark (first tack of the night) we found that the former lazy sheet was wrapped around the forward shroud and we couldn't tack the jib. We ended up sailing downwind through the approaching boats while Michael went forward and undid the mess. By time we got pointed in the right direction we were almost dead last.

Toward the downwind mark we made up a lot of distance.

Then I noticed - the re-rigged sheet was not through the car.

No wonder the jib wouldn't trim! Up front I crawled - yes crawled. Unrove the lazy sheet and ran it through the downwind car and onto a second winch. "Take the load on this!" I shouted. Now turn downwind - away from the mark - and thread the other sheet on its new side so we can jibe. Instead we "chicken jibe" two tacks. A few minute later we were over the finish. Near exhaustion later we were furled and stowed and headed in.

Finally, after a near disaster docking helped greatly by the Obsession crew, we tied up and having a glass of wine.

My new crew is ready to go again. Those of you who don't want to sail in those conditions. Don't. It's ok. Those like me who want to sail. Do. But first, consider your crew. It can be easier alone than with crew if they are untried.

And dang it - check the rigging!

Ken St. John

S/V Naughty By Nature

